

RESOLUTION No.445

**APPROVAL OF THE HEMISPHERIC BIOTECHNOLOGY
AND BIOSAFETY PROGRAM**

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, at its Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.480(06) "Proposed Hemispheric Biotechnology and Biosafety Program" (final proposal),

CONSIDERING:

That, by Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.409(XIII-O/05), the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) instructed the Director General to present the final proposal to the next meetings of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI) and of the Executive Committee for consideration and final approval by Member States;

That, in accordance with the recommendations of the SACMI, the final proposal presented to the Executive Committee for consideration should: (i) be the nucleus of the Program IICA must promote with available resources; (ii) institute the category of associate professionals, which would enable experts from national institutions to take part in implementing the program; (iii) promote the program at the regional level by linking one specialist in biotechnology and biosafety in each region to the program (associate experts and/or experts hired with external resources to be obtained); (iv) contain strategic projects that respond to regional priorities; and, (v) promote and encourage, in the Member States, regional inter-agency work, as well as a concerted effort among public agencies, universities and the private sector;

That resources allocated in the 2007 Program Budget are not adequate to fund the activities in the final proposal;

That possible sources of funding for the final proposal are resources from quotas owed from previous years that are collected in the 2007-2008 period; programmed resources in the 2007 Program Budget that have not been used and that are reallocated; and contributions from strategic partners, such as international financial institutions and other cooperation agencies;

That the SACMI recommended that a proposal for mobilizing additional contributions from Member States to implement the final proposal, both qualified personnel and financial resources, and for seeking additional financing from strategic partners and other donors, be submitted to the Executive Committee at its next regular meeting,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the proposed Hemispheric Biotechnology and Biosafety Program (final proposal) and instruct the Director General to implement the version of the Program contained in document IICA/CE/Doc.480(06) "Hemispheric Biotechnology and Biosafety Program."
2. To accept the recommendations made by the SACMI at its 2006 Regular Meeting and instruct the Director General to consider them an integral part of the strategy for implementation of the final proposal.
3. To instruct the Director General to include in the proposed 2008-2009 Program Budget, and in the proposal for the use of the resources generated through the collection of quota arrearages, the resources required for implementation of the final proposal.